

disconnected from the receptacle. Threading corresponding to the fixing screw 24 is cut in one end of the sheath so that fixing of the sheath to the high-voltage connector is possible without using any other means.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 18, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--With the above mechanism, when the sheath covers and is screwed into the high-voltage connector, there is conduction between the shield and core of the high-voltage cable. Therefore, even if a charge is generated due to friction etc., this flows away immediately so that there is no build-up of charge and no electric shock incurred when the core is touched.--

IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly amend claim 1 by rewriting it in amended form as follows:

1. (Amended) An X-ray fluorescence analysis apparatus comprising:

a first housing for housing an X-ray tube for irradiating a sample to be measured with primary X-rays;

a second housing for housing a high-voltage power supply for supplying a high-voltage to the X-ray tube; and

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a high-voltage cable for connecting the X-ray tube and the high-voltage power supply and having a high-voltage connector at least at one end thereof, the high-voltage connector comprising a core, ²¹ an insulator ²² covering the core, a fixing screw ²⁴ for connecting the high-voltage cable to a receptacle provided on one of the housings, a detachable sheath for removably covering an exposed portion of the core, ² the sheath having a thread corresponding to a thread of the fixing screw for enabling fixing of the sheath to the fixing screw, and a conductor ³ formed at an inner surface of the sheath so that the core makes contact therewith when the sheath is fixed to the fixing screw.

Kindly add the following new claims 2-12:

2. An X-ray fluorescence analysis apparatus according to claim 1; wherein the high-voltage cable further comprises a shielding wire ²² covering the insulator and in electrical contact with the core, and a protective cover covering the shielding wire. ² OK

3. An X-ray fluorescence analysis apparatus according to claim 2; wherein the fixing screw is in electrical contact with the shielding wire so that when the sheath is fixed to the fixing screw electrical contact is established between the core, the shielding wire and the fixing screw.

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4. An X-ray fluorescence analysis apparatus according to claim 1; wherein the fixing screw is in electrical contact with the core.

5. An X-ray fluorescence analysis apparatus according to claim 1; wherein the conductor formed at the inner surface of the sheath is configured such that when the sheath is fixed to the fixing screw the core does not become bent.

6. An X-ray fluorescence analysis apparatus according to claim 5; wherein the conductor is configured to slidably receive the core when the sheath is threaded to the fixing screw.

7. A high-voltage cable comprising: an elongated conductive core; an insulator covering the conductive core; a plug provided at least at one end of the cable and having a fixing member attached to the cable such that an exposed portion of the conductive core extends therefrom, the fixing member having a fixing portion for fixing the exposed portion of the conductive core to a receptacle of an electrical apparatus to establish an electrical connection therewith; and a sheath removably connectable to the fixing portion of the fixing member for covering the exposed portion of the conductive core when the cable is not fixed to the receptacle,

the sheath having a conductor for establishing an electrical connection with the conductive core.

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8. A high-voltage cable according to claim 7; further comprising a shielding wire covering the insulator and being electrically connected to the conductive core, and protective cladding covering the shielding wire, such that the fixing member is in electrical contact with the shielding wire so that when the sheath is fixed to the fixing member electrical contact is established between the core, the shielding wire and the fixing member.

9. A high-voltage cable according to claim 7; wherein the conductor is configured such that when the sheath is fixed to the fixing member the conductive core does not become bent.

10. A high-voltage cable according to claim 9; wherein the conductor is configured to slidably receive the core when the sheath is connected to the fixing member.

11. A high voltage cable according to claim 7; wherein the fixing member comprises a fixing screw having a central opening through which the conductive core passes, and having a thread corresponding to a thread on the receptacle.